

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 5-6, 8, 11-19, 21-22, 26-27, 31-36, and 67-68 remain in this application.

§ 103 Rejections

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-2, 5-6, 8, 11-19, 21-22, 26-27, 31-36, and 67-68 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 6,584,263 (Fewkes et al).

U.S. Patent No. 6,584,263 was filed on December 17th, 2001, and claims priority to continuation in part application filed on November 27th, 2000, and a provisional application filed on July 26th, 2000. Present application serial number 09/722,895 claims priority to provisional application filed on July 26th, 2000, and December 30th, 1999. Consequently, applicants submit that the Fewkes reference is not prior art to the present application.

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Appl. No.: 09/722895
Response Dated: 11/5/2003
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Please direct any questions or comments to Robert L. Carlson at 607-974-3502.

Respectfully submitted,



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